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DESCRIPTION OF NEW SPECIES OF ANCTUS AND OLIVA.

BY JOHN FORD.

Anctus Pilsbryi Ford. Fig. 1.

Fig. 1.

Shell rimately umbilicated, the axis imperforate; ovate-conical, spire acute, apex black; whorls 7, slightly convex, the last somewhat contracted near the base. Aperture extremely narrow, oblong; lip flatly reflected, the central half of its length provided with a flange extending towards the inner or columellar lip, from which proceeds a corresponding convexity, thus giving to the aperture a form much like the traditional key-hole. Color grayish-white, painted longitudinally with brownish and black lines.

Length of shell 23, diameter $9\frac{1}{2}$ mill. Width between flanges 1, width of flange on outer lip 2 mill. Color of lip white; aperture slightly shaded within. Habitat, Brazil.

Anctus angiosstoma Wagner (*capueira* Spix), Fig. 2, and *A. Pilsbryi* are the only living species of the genus known, and both are in color pattern and general form very much alike. In the former species, however, the apex is not black and shining as in the latter nor are the apertures at all alike save in general outline.



Fig. 2.

Indeed, that of *A. Pilsbryi* is absolutely distinct from any other known to the writer. This alone would justify its specific separation.

The figures were drawn from photographs of the shells and may therefore be accepted as correct.

The species has been named in honor of my friend Mr. Henry A. Pilsbry, Conservator of the Conchological department of the Academy and present Editor of the "Manual of Conchology."

Oliva cryptospira Ford. Figs. 3, 4.

Shell cylindrical, slightly enlarged near either end, producing an obese appearance. Salmon-colored, with a few dashes of white accompanied by faint zigzag brownish lines showing through the enamel, the latter being somewhat thickened and more orange in color on the basal fasciole. Spire short, with sutures entirely concealed by a heavy callus. Edge of lip and interior of aperture white. Length of type specimen $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Greatest diameter 1 inch. Habitat, Moluccas.

This shell is probably well known to veteran collectors, since it has been posing for many years as a veritable *O. irisans* Lamarck, from which species, however, it is in fact distinct.

No figure was given with Lamarck's description of *O. irisans*, but a figure probably intended for the same shell appears in Reeve's "Conchologia Iconica," Vol. 6, Pl. 6, fig. 8a, where it is classed with typical *O. irisans* Lam. That this figure does not agree with Lamarck's description in any essential feature is quite apparent.

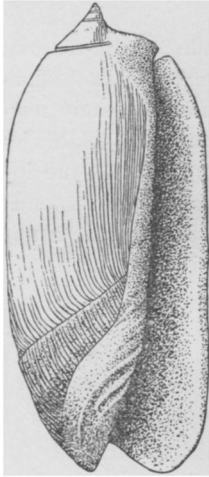


Fig. 3.

It seems, however, to have been accepted by my late friend, Mr. Tryon, as a representative *O. irisans*, since it was copied for the "Manual" without remark; although several specimens exhibiting characters similar to those shown in the figure—but which belong to *O. cryptospira* only—were at the time in the Academy's collection. Whether these specimens were accidentally overlooked, or the distinctions noted deemed too trifling for special designation, is a question

that cannot now be answered.

Judging from Mr. Tryon's well-known habits of study and carefulness, it is but fair to presume that the shells were not seen by him. In consequence of this uncertainty, the responsibility of correcting the error (if error it be), is accepted rather reluctantly although in the firm belief that the change



Fig. 4.

will benefit the student, as well as, in some slight degree, the cause of Science, also.